

**IN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

_____ day _____, 2013

PRESENT: Supervisors

ABSENT:

**RESOLUTION NO.
RESOLUTION HONORING NEIL COLLINS AS THE
2013 SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY WINEMAKER OF THE YEAR**

The following resolution is hereby offered and read:

WHEREAS, on July 19, 2013 at the California Mid-State Fair, the San Luis Obispo County Wine Industry will honor Neil Collins as its 2013 Winemaker of the Year for excellence in his craft, as well as vision and leadership in the San Luis Obispo County wine region; and

WHEREAS, Neil Collins moved to the United States from Bristol, England after beginnings as a chef and began his winemaking career in the local wine industry in the early 1990s with Adelaida Cellars and Wild Horse Winery & Vineyards; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, in a pursuit to hone his craft, he moved his family to the vineyards of Chateauneuf-du-Pape in southern France where he spent a year learning the cellars and vineyards of the famed Chateau de Beaucastel, one of the oldest and most highly regarded estates in France; and

WHEREAS, Neil returned to Paso Robles to take up the new role of winemaker and vineyard manager at Tablas Creek Vineyard, the California property of Château de Beaucastel. Since that time, great success and accolades has been achieved by Tablas Creek Vineyard, success in which Neil's hand has been significant; and

WHEREAS, Neil and his sister, Jackie Meisinger, began the winery Lone Madrone in 1996 with the premier goal of producing distinctive wines exclusively from vineyards in the rugged limestone hills of west side Paso Robles. Growing slowly yet steadily since, the focus has become largely on vineyards that are dry farmed and head trained, which winemaker Neil Collins believes to be "the purest expression of the unparalleled terroir of west Paso Robles"; and

WHEREAS, Neil strongly believes that in order to produce wines of the highest caliber you must first start with grapes of exceptional quality. Neil's technique of marrying old world growing methods and winemaking preferences with new exciting blends of Rhône, Bordeaux and Italian varieties is a result of carefully honing his craft over many harvests. Neil, his wife Marcy and two children live, farm, and work in the western hills of Paso Robles.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors, County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, does hereby honor Neil Collins for being named the 2013 San Luis Obispo County Winemaker of the Year.

Upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____, and on the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

The foregoing resolution is hereby adopted.

Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: _____
Deputy Clerk